

## CLAIMS:

Having thus disclosed my invention, what I claim as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States of America is:

Claim 1. A mechanism for removably hanging articles which comprises a pair of substantially horizontally disposed rods which define between them a slot for removably receiving an article for being hung from the mechanism, a plurality of elements which are supported by at least one of said rods and which are deflectable in reaction to said article being inserted and removed into and from said slot while imparting minimal frictional resistance to the relative horizontal movement between said rods and said article, said elements bearing sufficiently against said article while in said slot frictionally to prevent said article from falling from said slot due to gravity.

Claim 2. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said article comprises a garment.

Claim 3. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 2, wherein said garment consists of trousers, slacks, pants or a skirt.

Claim 4. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1 in combination with a plurality of further like mechanisms, said plurality of further like mechanisms and the first mentioned mechanism being mounted side-by-side on supporting means therefor.

Claim 5. A combination of mechanisms in accordance with Claim 4, which comprises two rows of said mechanisms, said slots of said mechanisms alternating relative to each other as seen from above.

Claim 6. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said elements comprise brush fibers.

Claim 7. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 2 comprising hook means for hanging the mechanism from a horizontally disposed pole.

Claim 8. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 7 comprising shoulder means for receiving a further garment, said shoulder means interconnecting at least one of said rods and said hook means.

Claim 9. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 8, which comprises a further pair of said rods which define a further slot that is aligned with said first mentioned slot, a further plurality of said elements carried by at least one of said further pair of rods in said further slot for receiving and removably retaining a said garment therein.

Claim 10. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said elements are flexible.

Claim 11. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said elements are resilient.

Claim 12. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said elements comprise fibrils.

Claim 13. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said elements comprise resilient wires.

Claim 14. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said elements comprise cam-like members.

Claim 15. A mechanism in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a plurality of said rods are supported on a rotatable stand and extend substantially radially from a vertical axis of rotation of said stand.

Claim 16. A hanger comprising two parallel substantially horizontal bars which define a slot between them and a plurality of fibers extending outwardly from one of said bars towards the other of said bars, said plurality of fibers being inclined upwardly from said one bar to

proximate the other said bar whereby items can be moved horizontally into and out of said slot and supported therein by said plurality of fibers.

Claim 17. A hanger in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said fibers are bent downwardly by the force of gravity on an item which is being supported in said slot by said plurality of fibers.

Claim 18. A hanger in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said plurality of fibers are arcuately supported from said one bar whereby said plurality of fibers is moveable in said slot in an arc of about thirty degrees.

Claim 19. A hanger in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said plurality of fibers are arcuately supported from said one bar so as to be moveable relative to the horizontal in an arc of between about forty and seventy degrees.

Claim 20. A hanger comprising an array of parallel substantially horizontal bars which define between them slots, a plurality of fibers extending outwardly from said bars into said slots, each said plurality of fibers being inclined upwardly from the bar from which it extends across each of said slots whereby items can be moved horizontally into and out of each of said slots and supported therein by a corresponding plurality of fibers extending across the respective slots.

Claim 21. An array of hangers in accordance with Claim 20, wherein each of said bars extends perpendicular to a base to which each of said bars is connected.

Claim 22. An array of hangers in accordance with Claim 20, wherein each of said bars extends from a base to which each of said bars is connected at a bias.

Claim 23. An array of hangers in accordance with Claim 20, wherein each said hanger is supported on its inboard end by a horizontal member which extends normally relative to the hanger.

Claim 24. An array of hangers in accordance with Claim 23, wherein each said hanger is rotatably relative to said horizontal member.

Claim 25. An array of hangers in accordance with Claim 22, wherein in each said hanger is removably mounted from said horizontal member in a cantilever fashion.